

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-3 have been amended to replace the term “6-methylpyridine derivative” with the term “6-methyl-2-[4-(4-morpholino)anilino]nicotinic acid.” In addition, claim 3 has been amended to delete the term “and prevention.” Support for claims 1-3 as amended appears throughout the specification and claims as originally filed.

Applicants assert that these amendments do not introduce new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132.

In view of the following, further and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

I. At page 2 of the Official Action, claims 1-3 have been rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

The Examiner asserts that the term “derivative” is unclear.

Claims 1-3 have been amended to replace the term “6-methylpyridine derivative” with the term “6-methyl-2-[4-(4-morpholino)anilino]nicotinic acid.”

Applicants submit that amended claims 1-3 are clear and definite within the meaning of 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

II. *At page 3 of the Official Action, claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.*

The Examiner asserts that the specification is not enabling for the "prevention" of hepatitis C. The Examiner states, at page 6 of the Official Action, that deleting the word "prevention" from claim 3 will overcome this rejection.

Accordingly, claim 3 has been amended to delete the term "and prevention."

Applicants submit that claim 3 is fully enabled by the specification within the meaning of 35 USC § 112, first paragraph. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

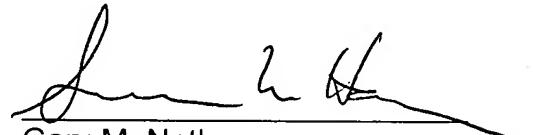
On the basis of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that, upon entry, the claims will be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections are hereby requested. Allowance of all the claims in this application is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicant petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,

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